

World Down Syndrome Day
March 21, 2020

In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared March 21 as World Down Syndrome Day.

Down Syndrome is a genetic disorder caused by the presence of all or part of a third copy of chromosome 21.

Approximately 6,000 babies (1 out of 700 births) in the U.S. are born with Down syndrome.

Women who become pregnant at an older age have an increased risk. At age 35, there is a 1 in 350 chance; at age 40, there is a 1 in 100 chance; at age 45 the incidence rate is 1 in 30.

Individuals with Down syndrome thrive when integrated into society and community organizations.

Thanks to improved medical treatments, up to 80% of adults with Down syndrome reach age 60 and many live even longer.

The majority of individuals with Down syndrome work independently by age 20.